

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable consideration of this application as presently amended is respectfully requested.

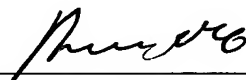
The present application presents Claims 8-14 which were not elected in response to a restriction requirement in the Parent Application Serial No. 09/556,949.

This application is a divisional application of Serial Number 09/556,949 filed April 21, 2000, and claims the benefit of priority from prior Japanese Patent Applications No. 11-117266, filed on April 23, 1999, No. 11-117267, filed on April 23, 1999, and No. 11-117269, filed on April 23, 1999, the entire contents of all of which are incorporated herein by reference.

Accordingly, examination on the merits is believed to be in order and an early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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